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GENERAL

1. US to continue Austrian Treaty talks--The Department of State has instructed US delegates at the London Conference on the Austrian treaty to endeavor to reach maximum agreement with the USSR on outstanding economic issues and then to proceed to the discussion of the other disputed articles of the treaty. The Department has advised the delegation that Soviet intentions may be either to execute a tactical maneuver for propaganda purposes or to "reach an agreement on reasonable terms." The Department believes, therefore, that it is essential to continue the negotiations until the Soviet purposes are revealed.

The US delegation at London reports that both the British and French delegations are apparently convinced that the USSR wants a treaty and the Soviet delegates will for that reason make every effort to prevent a break in the negotiations.

2. No German representation at CEEC meeting--The Department of State considers that in view of previously stated objections to the presence of German representatives at the plenary session of the Committee on European Economic Cooperation (CEEC), no Germans should be present at the session and the agreement should be signed on behalf of the US-UK Zone Germany by the military governors. The Department believes, however, that bizonal participation in the European recovery program should not be limited by the agreement. The Department adds that the agreement should provide single membership for the three zones if there is a fusion of the French Zone with the bizonal area.

## EUROPE

3. FRANCE: Communists planning attacks on Gaullists--US Embassy Paris has been told by the Interior Ministry that the French Communist Central Committee, at its session of 14-15 April, will instruct Communist militants to intensify attacks on Gaullist para-military groups. The Communists reportedly

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hope to implicate De Gaulle and his Rally of the French People (RPF) in an increasing number of disorders and thereby facilitate the legal dissolution of the RPF para-military organization. The Interior Ministry believes that there is a possibility of trouble between the Communists and Gaullists during the RPF National Congress in Marseilles, 16-18 April.

(CIA Comment: CIA agrees with the estimate of the Ministry of the Interior regarding the "possibility of trouble" in Marseilles but believes that Government forces are capable of dealing with the situation.)

Communists plan new efforts against recovery program - The US Military Attache in Paris has been told by a usually reliable informant that the Soviet Embassy in France has decided to reestablish a tight control over the French Communist Party and thereby make effective coordinated Communist action in western Europe against the European recovery program. Plans for direct action among labor groups may be worked out at the French Communist Central Committee session of 14-15 April, in coordination with the national secretaries of the Communist General Confederation of Labor (CGT).

(CIA Comment: Although non-Communist labor elements are continuing to organize defense committees to counter anticipated Communist industrial agitation, the CGT still retains enough influence in labor to hamper seriously French economic recovery.)

4. NORWAY: Possible Scandinavian action in European emergency - During an interview with Foreign Minister Lange, US Ambassador Bay has gained the impression that: (a) Norway will avoid joining a western European group until an obvious security advantage is assured; (b) in an emergency, Norway will join the western powers regardless of the actions of Sweden and Denmark; and (c) Denmark would probably follow Norway's lead under such circumstances, but there is still doubt as to Sweden's course of action.

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**THE AMERICAS**

5. COLOMBIA: Bogota food supply threatened--US Military Attache Bogota transmits an unconfirmed report that: (a) Communist elements have obtained complete control of the refinery at Barranca Bermeja, and (b) the ferry at Comuna has been destroyed by Communists who are blowing up railway bridges and ferries vital for transporting food to Bogota.

(CIA Comment: The Barranca Bermeja refinery is a key plant in maintaining the domestic gasoline supply. Although Communists have infiltrated into the petroleum industry and reports indicate they do not control the unions.)

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